

parent Towhees soon came to the rescue and by their actions put identification beyond a shadow of question. This was also in Cochituate village, Wayland, Mass.

Mr. Brewster regards this double experience as especially noteworthy in eastern Massachusetts. He believes that a few instances of bush-nesting by Towhees are on record as occurring in central Massachusetts. Personally, through a lifetime of bird experience (off and on) in eastern Massachusetts, I have never met with nor heard of a case of bush or tree-building by the Towhee there. With us of eastern Massachusetts the Towhee has ever been the closest kind of a ground-builder, so far as I know.—FLETCHER OSGOOD, *Chelsea, Mass.*

The Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) Breeding near Springfield, Mass.—In the July number of 'The Auk,' I reported the capture of a Rough-winged Swallow at Longmeadow near Springfield. Afterwards, not far from the place where this one was taken, three more were observed, and a pair of these were found to be breeding. The site of the nest was located in a ravine two hundred feet long, washed out a few years ago from a bluff twenty feet above the flood plain of the Connecticut River. This pair were successful in raising their young. I noticed that they flew low and did not pause in their flight, as do the Barn Swallows; they often came to feed their young through the woods adjacent to a portion of the ravine, flying not more than ten feet from the ground.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

The Water-Thrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*) Nesting in Rhode Island.—In April of the present year I was searching through a swamp in Washington County for Red-shouldered Hawks' nests and came upon some uprooted trees in a small area which was very wet and swampy. In looking over one of these stumps I found a last year's nest which from its location gave me a suggestion that a Water-Thrush might have nested there.

On May 20, in company with Mr. John H. Flanagan, I again visited the swamp and upon approaching the spot where I found the old nest I heard a Water-Thrush singing. A search through the swamp was begun for its nest and after examining nearly every stump, I found it with the female sitting closely. We approached within two feet of the nest, thoroughly examining her, and were fully satisfied that it was the Water-Thrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*). The bird would not leave when we struck the root and only left when I almost touched her with my hand, and flew into a tree within ten feet of us, and all the time we were there she was close by in clear view uttering a sharp chirp and kept her tail in motion like a Spotted Sandpiper's.

There were five eggs, incubated but three or four days. The nest was placed in a cavity in the roots about a foot above the water, which was

two feet deep here. It was very beautifully and compactly built of a dark green moss mixed with its seed stalks, fine rootlets, and a few pieces of dead maple leaves on the bottom. The lining was made of fine white rootlets, each piece about two inches long and which resembled horse hair. The outside was about four inches in diameter and two inches in depth with walls three quarters of an inch thick. We again visited the same locality on June 6 with the hope of finding a second set, but a careful search of every root did not reveal one. Three males were singing a few hundred feet apart and two birds, each in different parts of the swamp, were feeding young, just able to fly, one of which I shot, as I did also a male.

Near my home in South Auburn in former years I have seen the Water-Thrush during the migration in spring as early as May 7, and they have lingered with us until the fifteenth of the month. Probably the birds are mated as soon as they arrive on their breeding ground and commence to build their nest at once, for the first egg was probably laid in this nest by May 12.

This is the first instance of its breeding in Rhode Island, and from the number of birds noted, it now can be called a rare local summer resident, and spring and fall migrant.—HARRY S. HATHAWAY, *South Auburn, R. I.*

A Robin's Nest without Mud.—In the Summer of 1900 or 1901 I noted a Robin on Boston Common building a nest on a linden. No mud was then accessible anywhere on the Common and the Robin had apparently put no mud into this nest. It appeared to be built wholly of the dry trash used by English Sparrows in nest-building. It was some 25 feet up from the ground and could not be closely examined but from all points of view, in bulk and shapelessness as well as in material, it presented the appearance of an English Sparrow's nest of average or a trifle less than average size. If I had not watched the Robin in building it I should have called it an English Sparrow's nest, without hesitation. When first seen, the nest was nearly finished.—FLETCHER OSGOOD, *Chelsea, Mass.*

The Birds of Wyoming: Some Corrections.—Prominent among the earlier articles on Wyoming birds is one published by Dr. Brewer, entitled 'Notes on the birds of Wyoming and Colorado Territories, by C. H. Holden, Jr.; with additional memoranda by C. E. Aiken' (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., XV, 1872, pp. 193-210). Although not definitely so stated, the implication is strong that all of these records were made in the vicinity of Sherman, Wyoming. The Holden notes were really taken at this locality, but those of Aiken refer to his experiences in the vicinity of Fountain, Colo., near Colorado Springs. A few months after the issue of this paper, Dr. Coues called attention (Am. Nat., VII, 1873, p. 420) to the true location of the Aiken records, but previous to the discovery by him of the facts of the case, he himself had already incorporated in the manuscript of his 'Birds of the Northwest,' some of the Colorado